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Applicant(s): Blatter

Docket No.

11502/26

Application No.
10/624,315Filing Date
July 21, 2003Examiner
Leslie R. DeakCustomer No.
32642Group Art Unit
3761

Invention: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS

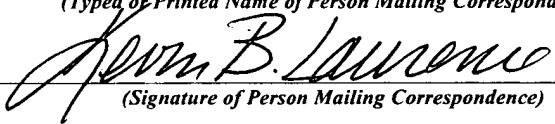
APR 27 2006

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

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(37 CFR 1.10) (1 pg.)
PTO-Form 2038 Charging the amount of \$575 for filing Supplemental
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Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (1 pg.)
Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (3 pgs.)
PTO-Form 1449 listing thirty-seven (37) references (3 pgs.)
Copies of references from applications (29)
Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement (2 pgs.)
Postcard

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.
11502/26

In Re Application Of: Blatter

APR 27 2006

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Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
10/624,315	July 21, 2003	Leslie R. Deak	32642	3761	32642

Title: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS

Address to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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37 CFR 1.97(b)

- The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

37 CFR 1.97(c)

- The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:

the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);

OR

the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.
11502/26

In Re Application of: Blatter



Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
10/624,315	July 21, 2003	Leslie R. Deak	32642	3761	32642

Title: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS

Payment of Fee

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

- A check in the amount of _____ is attached.
- The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 50-2375 as described below.
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Signature

Dated: APRIL 27, 2006

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APR 27 2006

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PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No.: 11502/26

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Blatter

Serial No.: 10/624,315

) Art Unit
3761

Filed: July 21, 2003

Title: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING
REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS

Examiner: Leslie R. Deak

Confirmation No.: 7286

Customer No.: 32642

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R § 1.97

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

1. Pursuant to the duty of disclosure, documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (or equivalent) are presented for the Examiner's consideration.

- Copies of listed documents are enclosed. (37 CFR § 1.98(a))
- Copies of listed U.S. patent documents are omitted because this application was filed after June 30, 2003 and is, thus, subject to image file wrapper processing.
- Copies of listed foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed. (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2))
- Copies of the documents listed on sheet(s) _____ of Form PTO-1449 (or equivalent) are omitted because (1) they are already of record in U.S. Patent Application No. _____, filed _____, on which this application relies for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120; and (2) any information disclosure statement filed in the prosecution of Application No. _____, complies with 37 CFR §§ 1.98(a) through (c). (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d))

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2. The Examiner's attention is directed to the enclosed copy of copending U.S. Patent Application No. _____, filed _____, for _____, which is cited in this application.

3. This information disclosure statement is being submitted (check box a., b., or c.):

- a. Within three months of the filing date of a national application or entry of the national stage in an international application; or before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114. (No statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) is required.); or
- b. After the period set forth in paragraph 3a, but before the mailing date of either a final action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. (Check box i. or ii.)
 - i. A \$180.00 information disclosure statement submission fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed, or
 - ii. A statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below; or
- c. After the mailing date of a final action or notice of allowance and on or before payment of the issue fee. A statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below. Enclosed is a \$180.00 information disclosure statement processing fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

4. If a statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is required, the attorney or agent signing below hereby states that:

each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement; or

no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

5. A concise explanation of the relevance of each document not in the English language and/or selected documents in the English language is included.

DATED this 27TH day of APRIL, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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CUSTOMER NO. 32642



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 11502/26	APPLICATION NO. 10/624,315
TITLE: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS		APPLICANT - Blatter	
		EXAMINER: Leslie R. Deak	
CONFIRMATION NO.: 3802 CUSTOMER NO.: 32642		FILING DATE- July 21, 2003	GROUP- 3761

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	1	6,746,459	06/08/2004	Kato			10/16/2001
	2	2002/00494559	04/25/2002	Kato			10/16/2001
	3	6,214,022	01/10/2001	Taylor et al.			04/28/1999
	4	6,063,114	05/16/2000	Nash, et al.			09/04/1997
	5	4,366,810	01/04/1983	Kaster			11/17/1980
	6	3,991,756	11/16/1976	Synder			08/18/1975
	7	3,853,126	12/10/1974	Schulte			11/15/1973
	8	3,713,441	01/30/1973	Thomas			10/22/1970

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	9	Office Action dated 09/20/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/624,315, 7 pgs.
	10	Interview Summary from 10/18/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/624,315, 1pg.
	11	Office Action Response dated 12/16/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/624,315, 19 pgs.
	12	Office Action dated 09/29/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/624,711, 7 pgs.
	13	Interview Summary from 10/18/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/624,711, 1 pg.
	14	Office Action Response dated 12/15/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/624,711, 16 pgs.
	15	Office Action dated 01/12/2006 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/351,172, 2 pgs.

OTHER DOCUMENTS (*Including Author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.*)

	16	Office Action Response dated 02/10/2006 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/351,172, 12 pgs.
	17	Office Action dated 08/18/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/351,172, 5 pgs.
	18	Interview Summary from 10/18/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/351,172, 1 pg.
	19	Office Action Response dated 12/16/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/351,172, 21 pgs.
	20	Office Action dated 01/29/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/481,283 (Patent No. 6,595,941), 7 pgs.
	21	Interview Summary from 06/13/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/481,283 (Patent No. 6,595,941), 1 pg.
	22	Office Action Response dated 07/01/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/481,283 (Patent No. 6,595,941), 13 pgs.
	23	Office Action dated 09/25/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/760,322 (Patent No. 6,663,590), 9 pgs.
	24	Interview Summary from 11/21/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/760,322 (Patent No. 6,663,590), 1 pg.
	25	Office Action Response dated 03/25/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/760,322 (Patent No. 6,663,590), 31 pgs.
	26	Office Action dated 06/18/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/760,322 (Patent No. 6,663,590), 4 pgs.
	27	Office Action Response dated 06/26/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/760,322 (Patent No. 6,663,590), 2 pgs.
	28	Office Action (Election/Restrictions) dated 04/10/2001 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 4 pgs.
	29	Response to Restriction Requirement dated 07/10/2001 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964, (Patent No. 6,656,151) 2 pgs.
	30	Office Action dated 09/13/2001 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 6 pgs.
	31	Office Action Response dated 03/13/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 8 pgs.
	32	Interview Summary from 03/13/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 1 pg.
	33	Final Office Action dated 04/09/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 7 pgs.
	34	Final Office Action dated 10/01/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 7 pgs.
	35	Interview Summary from 11/21/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 1 pg.
	36	Office Action Response dated 04/01/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 36 pgs.

OTHER DOCUMENTS (*Including Author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.*)

37

Interview Summary from 05/06/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 1 pg.

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformation with MPEP609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Customer No. 32642